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### Two Good Appointments

President Johnson has chosen well in nominating Richard M. Helms to be the new director of the Central Intelligence Agency and Rosel H. Hyde to be the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. Both men bring to their executive responsibilities the advantage of substantial experience within their respective agencies.

Dick Helms should have become the CIA director at the time Admiral William F. Raborn was appointed 14 months ago. The Texas-connected Admiral was a misfit in this post from the beginning. He had done a fine job with the Polaris missile program, but neither this background nor his reputation for getting along with Congress qualified him for the delicate work of supervising and coordinating the Nation's intelligence effort. Admiral Raborn made some administrative changes in the agency, and he had the good sense to lean on Mr. Helms in technical matters. But too often, judging from the tales that flowed in a steady stream from the CIA headquarters at Langley, he seemed to look upon his role as that of a glorified cop.

By contrast Mr. Helms is a professional to his fingertips, sensitive as well as competent. He is well versed in the clandestine side of CIA's operations, but he also is enough of a generalist to recognize that this is only a minor part of CIA's informational responsibility. Well respected both in the Administration and on Capitol Hill, Mr. Helms is no doubt flexible enough to accommodate himself gracefully to any revised oversight arrangement that Congress may prescribe.

Mr. Hyde, a Republican and former chairman of the FCC who was first appointed to the Commission in 1946, won distinction if not appreciation from all quarters by resisting questionable pressures brought on him by Sherman Adams. Because of his caution and conservatism it is unlikely that he will be an innovator, but his experience as an FCC career employee should assist him to avoid domination by the staff. He should be buttressed in his independence by a new FCC Commissioner, Nicholas Johnson, who as Federal Maritime Administrator demonstrated a sturdy ability to stand up to criticism from vested interests.